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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

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Remarks:

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Date

Walter C. Krause

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December 6, 1978

OIC 78-0027

The Honorable Les Aspin
 U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington D. C. 20515

*Jan
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Dear Congressman Aspin:

Just a word of praise for your decision to withhold the names of those reporters and columnists who may have permitted themselves to become involved in gathering intelligence. I would say that we should rather praise them than condemn them. And after all it is no ones business to know who they were or are.

We keep chipping away at our government and especially the intelligence service, and nothing remains sacred, noble or secret. And our press is guilty of this as they demand to have intelligence matters and names of CIA agents made known to them. And then we have reporters who do sell, give away, and publish secret information. And because of our laws and the courts they are spoken free. Thank heaven we have few of them.

You are right when you say, "I think to go back and really get the names of the people involved would be terribly unfair."

Should the committee which you chair, together with the managing editor Stuart Loory, of the Chicago Times believe that we can get along without intelligence gathering, and refuse the help of our correspondents and reporters, then it is a sad state of affairs. The question is, should we be more concerned about the opinions of foreign countries than we are about the security of the U.S?

Personally, Dear Congressman Aspin, I take my hat off to those reporters who contribute needed information to our intelligence. I say, let them do it surreptitiously, and recommend that the CIA, that the FBI, and the other intelligence agencies and security offices immediately destroy records of sources and all names.

Again, my congratulations for being courageous enough to take the stand you have taken. It would please me to hear or know that you have permitted the members of your committee to know how the citizen feels about this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Walter C. Krause

Walter C. Krause

cc: Director of the CIA
 Managing Editor, Chicago Sun Times
 Chicago Tribune
 President and Editor St. Petersburg Fla. Times.

The FBI
 The Milwaukee Journal (the
 Milwaukee Journal carried
 the story.)

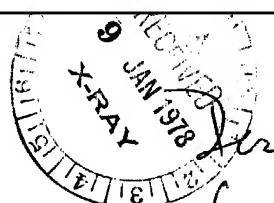
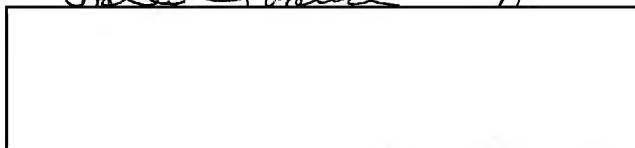
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Director CIA
Washington DC



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